

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-34. (Canceled)

35. (New) Strapping which has been molecularly oriented by stretching in a longitudinal direction, having a width of 0.5-3 cm and a thickness of 0.03-0.20 cm, comprising:

97.2-99.8% by weight polyester; and

0.2-2.8% by weight of a linear low density polyethylene having a main polymer chain that is essentially linear with not more than 5 long chain branches per 1000 ethylene units;

wherein the linear low density polyethylene causes the strapping to have increased resistance to splitting in the longitudinal direction while under tension.

36. (New) Strapping which has been molecularly oriented by stretching in a longitudinal direction, having a width of 0.5-3 cm and a thickness of 0.03-0.20 cm, comprising:

97.2-99.8% by weight polyester selected from the group consisting of polyethylene naphthalate, polyethylene isophthalate, and combinations thereof; and

0.2-2.8% of one or more polyolefins selected from the group consisting of linear low density polyethylene, branched low density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, and combinations thereof;

Serial No.: 10/510,550

wherein the polyolefin causes the strapping to have increased resistance to splitting in the longitudinal direction while under tension.

37. (New) Strapping which has been molecularly oriented by stretching in a longitudinal direction, having a width of 0.5-3 cm and a thickness of 0.03-0.20 cm, comprising:

97.2-99.8% polyester; and

0.2-2.8% by weight of the strapping, of one or more polyolefins selected from the group consisting of linear low density polyethylene, branched low density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, and combinations thereof, wherein the polyolefin is grafted with a polar monomer;

wherein the polyolefin causes the strapping to have increased resistance to splitting in the longitudinal direction while under tension.

38. (New) Strapping which has been molecularly oriented by stretching a longitudinal direction, having a width of 0.5-3 cm and a thickness of 0.03-0.20 cm, comprising:

97.2-99.8% by weight polyester having an intrinsic viscosity of about 0.7-1.2 deciliters per gram; and

0.2-2.8% by weight linear low density polyethylene;

wherein the linear low density polyethylene causes the strapping to have increased resistance to splitting in the longitudinal direction while under tension.

39. (New) The strapping of Claim 35, wherein the polyester is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, and combinations thereof.

40. (New) The strapping of Claim 35, wherein the polyester is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene naphthalate, polyethylene isophthalate, and combinations thereof.

41. (New) The strapping of Claim 35, further comprising a styrene block copolymer elastomeric material.

42. (New) The strapping of Claim 35, having a uniaxially oriented length which is about 3-7 times an initial, unstretched length.

43. (New) The strapping of Claim 35, comprising:
98.5-99.5% by weight of the polyester; and
0.5-1.5% by weight of the linear low density polyethylene.

44. (New) The strapping of Claim 36, further comprising a styrene block copolymer elastomeric material.

45. (New) The strapping of Claim 36, having a uniaxially oriented length which is about 3-7 times an initial, unstretched length.

Serial No.: 10/510,550

46. (New) The strapping of Claim 36, comprising:
98.5-99.5% by weight of the polyester; and
0.5-1.5% by weight of the one or more polyolefins.

47. (New) The strapping of Claim 37, wherein the polyolefin grafted with a polar monomer comprises a linear low density polyethylene having a main polymer chain that is essentially linear with not more than 5 long chain branches per 1000 ethylene units.

48. (New) The strapping of Claim 37, further comprising a styrene block copolymer elastomeric material.

49. (New) The strapping of Claim 37, having a uniaxially oriented length which is about 3-7 times an initial, unstretched length.

50. (New) The strapping of Claim 37, comprising:
98.5-99.5% by weight of the polyester; and
0.5-1.5% by weight of the polyolefin grafted with a polar monomer.

51. (New) The strapping of Claim 38, wherein the polyester is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, and combinations thereof.

Serial No.: 10/510,550

52. (New) The strapping of Claim 38, wherein the polyester is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene naphthalate, polyethylene isophthalate, and combinations thereof.

53. (New) The strapping of Claim 38, further comprising a styrene block copolymer elastomeric material.

54. (New) The strapping of Claim 38, having a uniaxially oriented length which is about 3-7 times an initial, unstretched length.

55. (New) The strapping of Claim 38, comprising:
98.5-99.5% by weight of the polyester; and
0.5-1.5% by weight of the one or more polyolefins.